

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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Precaution is better than repentance.—Greek.

## CHRISTMAS THE UNIVERSAL

The perennially wonderful thing about Christmas is that it touches all hearts. There may be somewhere in this world—certainly not in this city—a Scrooge in real life; but it is very much doubted. The holiday spirit plays no favorites, either of rank or fortune. The blessed happiness of the season is quite as real for the street-waif as for the petted and pampered scion of millions, and the former, with an unjaded and an unfilled capacity for enjoyment, is likely to get the more delight of the two.

It is this universality of Christmas joy that makes the giving of gifts each year a more simple matter. Each year gifts are coming more and more to be expressions of sincere instead of sham sentiment. Fifty years ago the giving of Christmas cards was practically unknown; today far more than half of your metheos to relatives and friends are apt to be bought but cheerfully-colored little pieces of cardboard with perhaps a phrase or two of poetry. What matter if the phrase is hackneyed, the form of expression used a thousand times before? The spirit behind such a gift is not hackneyed nor is the quality of true friendship ever shopworn.

And because the spirit of Christmas rises so high upon simple as upon elaborate presents, its universal appeal is apparent. There is combined at this season the tenderest feelings of human affection and the most hallowed sentiments of a deep and rare religious faith. There is expressed the kindly thoughts of warm friendship and the reverence of inner exaltation of the great event of nineteen hundred years ago.

In this day and in this community, Christmas may well be met with a broader spirit than the mere giving of personal gifts. Each man, each woman, holds relation with the community in which he and she carries on the business of living. The giving of service to that community is a form of Christmas observance that need not and should not be confined to the holiday season. What rarer offering, what more meritorious, can be imagined than that of selfish personal service not alone to family, but to one friend, not to a circle of friends, but to a community, a city? There is nothing impractical in this; indeed, it is eminently practical. No more precious gift could be made to a city than self-forgetful, wise, diligent work for the public service by its men and women.

## STEPPING TO THE PRESIDENT'S TUNE

The passage of the currency bill yesterday and its signature by President Wilson furnishes another evidence of the liveliness with which Congress steps when the president pipes in.

Such good observers of events in Washington as Mark Sullivan, the political writer for Collier's, and the Washington correspondent of the New York Times did not expect the bill to be passed for some weeks. Mr. Sullivan, in fact, thought that debate on the measure would not begin until after Christmas and the bill would probably not become a law until next March.

Instead of that, the currency legislation is probably well out of the way and the president will be ready to take up with Congress early in the new year his program for trust and monopoly regulation. He will write his much-heralded trust message during the next three weeks, taking his Christmas vacation to the side. Inasmuch as Mr. Wilson enjoys writing messages for congressional and popular consumption, he doubtless will not find the trust document an irksome matter nor view it in the light of a task to be hurried over with.

So it is reasonable to expect that by February or March of next year the country will be stirred by the proposals for trust reform. Whether Wilson can retain his amazing hold on Congress through this tremendous program on which he has boldly embarked is a matter of some doubt.

## CHANGE NOW IS UNDESIRABLE

Swapping horses in the middle of the stream has always been recognized as a rather dangerous proceeding, and it is going to be particularly dangerous in the case of the Honolulu Civil Service Commission.

The commission is in no position now for a change of membership, and it is to be hoped that Chairman Wirtz will reconsider a strongly-intimated intention to leave the body at the end of

December. We hope that he will at least be ready for reappointment in case the mayor decides that under the law reappointments must be made on or before January 1.

The present commission has made a good start on an important work, but it must be recognized that it is only a start. An excellent set of rules for police and fire departments have been adopted by the commission, but they are not in full effect for the reason that the board of supervisors denies the commission much of the powers it has claimed and which are necessary in order to enforce the rules as adopted. The whole question of the commission's jurisdiction is up in the air; the whole administrative structure it has been building up for the improvement of the police and fire departments is as yet on an unsubstantial basis.

This is no time for a change in the personnel of the board. It is not a propitious time for any member of the board to resign. If the members feel that they were appointed only for the short term of six months ending January 1, and if they wish to continue the work on which the commission is far advanced, to carry out the policies to which the commission had been pledged by its present membership, they may with all propriety be receptive candidates for reappointment.

## APPRECIATION

People, don't forget to wish the postoffice staff a Merry Christmas! Postmaster Pratt and his assistants have probably never before been so severely taxed as during this unprecedented holiday rush of mails. Tomorrow practically all the employees must work all morning and until twelve o'clock noon for the accommodation and convenience of the public. The Star-Bulletin voices the sentiments of many thousands in saying that this season has been marked by great courtesy and almost tireless energy on the part of the postoffice force, working under trying conditions. A Merry Christmas to all—not only the mail-carriers, but the clerks inside and the men at the windows who are still able to smile late at night after a day of toil and a million foolish questions!

Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, Chicago educator, has been reinstated again. Rather more lucky than the superintendent of public instruction in Hawaii who was exonerated by the governor and then dropped with one of those dull, sickening thuds.

Merry Christmas south of the Rio Grande will be marked by lavish distribution of ultimatum, and north of the Rio Grande a few reprimands will be handed out.

N. B.—All Santa Clauses should be careful tonight, so that the next issue of this paper may not have to chronicle a single accident or distressing incident.

Best way to get rid of the pest who insists on talking about Uncle Sam and the Monroe doctrine is to ask him what the said doctrine is.

Explorers will eat turkey in the Arctic tomorrow, thus again demonstrating the efficiency of America's frozen-meat service.

Telegraphic dispatches say that communication with Chihuahua is likely to be cut off over Christmas—and we hope so.

Eastern scientists are again seeing spots on the sun, but to Honolulu's merchants it seems to be in prime condition.

Taking the police department out of politics is all right, but how about taking politics out of the police department?

In celebration of Carranza's glorious victories, Huerta has declared a continuous holiday in Mexico City.

The real sigh of content is heaved by the man who has just shoved his last Christmas card into the mail-box.

"Billposters' trust to dissolve." Evidently can't stick to it any longer.

The currency bill is passed, but the currency shortage is still with us.

Carranza should also sink invading airships.

Haera—oh, well, it's Christmas.

Today it's Shop Early and Late.

## Letters & TIMELY TOPICS

[The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space to anonymous communications.]

### TO EMPHASIZE HAWAII'S STATUS

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.  
Sir.—As to the currency law not applying to the territory of Hawaii: Is it not about time the question of Hawaii's status in its relation to the mainland be settled by an appeal to

the courts? If this is a territory having the same relation to the states as the territories on the mainland, as is claimed, and generally admitted, how can Congress pass a law that applies to the territories on the mainland only? Why not test the constitutionality of such a law and settle this matter for all time? It can hardly be expected that the average congressman at Washington understands our exact standing, and it is no wonder that such laws are passed, but there is no reason why we here should submit to all they do there. The courts only are competent to pass on this question. Let's settle the matter in the proper way. Why admit their contention by asking for special legislation? M.

## CHRISTMAS DAY TO BE WELCOMED BY THE CAROLERS

(Continued from page one)

the older folks—who attend. The children of the school will sing a number of carols and participate in a tableaux after which Mrs. A. B. Ingalls will render several selections on the violin. Two quartets from the Kamehameha schools, one from the seminary, will sing carols. Carols and other selections are to be rendered by a quartet composed of Mrs. John P. Erdman, Mrs. Alexander Lindsay, Jr., Clifton Tracy and George Andrus.

The big playground at the Palama Settlement will be opened to the children and others of the neighborhood at 7:30 o'clock. The grounds will be lighted, and a large illuminated Christmas tree will grace the center. Carols will be sung by the children of the settlement, who have been rehearsed by Miss Laura Topham; by the normal school girls; and by the quartet headed by Mrs. John P. Erdman, and by a male quartet led by Rev. Akaka Akana at the Beretania street playground, from 7 until 7:30 o'clock. Carols will be sung by the Normal school girls, by Mr. Akana's quartet, and by a quartet of Y. M. C. A. boys under the direction of Glenn T. Jackson. A group of Normal school girls under the leadership of Miss Jane Winne, Miss Mary Winne and Miss Sturgeon will make a tour of the Nuuanu district, while the Emma street district will be covered by another group of Normal school girls under the leadership of Miss Dean and Miss Cunningham, and the members of one of the boys clubs of the Y. M. C. A. The Beretania street and Punahou district will be covered by a group of girls from the Y. W. C. A. under the leadership of Mrs. Eliza Cross Howard, the members of one of the Y. M. C. A. boys' clubs and the quartet led by Mrs. John P. Erdman.

The Liliuokalani school will be the center of the singing in the Kaimuki district, and, following a brief program there, a large group under the leadership of Miss Needham, Mrs. King and Mr. Saylor will sing carols at the Leahi Home. Another group of children is planning to sing carols at the homes of the sick late this afternoon. A group of boys from the Honolulu School for Boys, led by Professor Corbthers, plans to carol through the entire district this evening. It is the plan of the committee in charge to have at least one group of carolers visit the various hospitals and homes throughout the city, and a mixed double quartet, organized by Reginald Carter, organist of St. Andrew's cathedral, will sing at the various hospitals and hotels, including the beach hotels.

A group of boys from Mills school and another of girls from the Kawahao seminary will sing carols throughout the Manoa Valley. It is understood that other bands of carolers are being organized throughout the city, and these are urged to join in the singing.

LADIES OF HONOLULU furnished the recipes for the Honolulu Cook Book. These guarantees of good cooking have been compiled from the recipes published from time to time in the Home Department of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin. It's a splendid Christmas present.

### Sane.

The new king of Bavaria is sane all right. One of his first demands is for an increase in salary.

## OPEN HOUSE AT Y.M.C.A. NEW YEAR'S NIGHT

General Secretary Paul Super and the members of the employed force of the Young Men's Christian Association are planning to hold open house on the evening of January 1 as a fitting close to a year of successful work and to welcome what is expected will be even a more successful 12 months.

At 5:30 o'clock the cafeteria will be opened to the members of the association and their ladies, and Manager Floyd Baumann is preparing a menu which will not be equalled anywhere in the city. Two orchestras have been engaged for the occasion and will play in the lobby during and after the dinner hour. The entire building will be thrown open for inspection; in the billiard rooms D. C. Bayne will be on hand to teach the women visitors the fine points of the game and will give an exhibition of fancy shooting, while down in the bowling alleys the guests may try their hand at the game which has become so popular among the fair sex during the winter. It is possible that several fast basket ball games will be on tap in the games hall. Beginning at 8 o'clock Captain George Steunenberg will deliver in Cooke hall a lecture entitled "Naples and Rome," which will be illustrated with a number of colored slides. All members of the association are requested to be present and to bring their ladies, and strangers in the city, who hold membership cards in other associations, are cordially invited.

## SAYS CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION STATUTE UNSKILLFULLY DRAWN

"The statute creating the civil service commission is so unskillfully drawn that there are many uncertainties about it, and one of them is the tenure of office of the present commissioners," said P. L. Weaver, first deputy city and county attorney, this morning.

"In place of saying exactly how long the commissioners should serve, it leaves the question more or less in the dark. I think that a court would at once interpret the statute, however, to mean that the mayor should appoint the commissioners at the first of each year.

"Of course, the statute doesn't say that. It only says that the mayor shall on or before the first day of January of each year appoint, etc. In this case where the statute went into effect in the middle of the year and the appointments were made shortly following it, it seems to me that the commissioners' term can be deemed to have ended the first of January. It is a question which would never have come up had the statute been skillfully drawn. The only way to find an answer to it is to look for the intent of the legislature as indicated in it."

Chairman Wirtz of the commission stated this morning that he had always felt his term of office, and that of his fellow-commissioners was for but six months; and that he believed the mayor had the right to make reappointments the first of the year. For his part, he said, he did not wish to be reappointed, as the time taken for the work of the commission could not be well-spared from business. In taking the office as chairman of the commission, he said he wished to start the body on the right course, and now that that had been done he was perfectly willing for the mayor to name his successor at once.

Get your tickets now for the big Charity Ball, given by the Elks on New Year's Eve at the new Armory. Tickets sold wherever the sign is displayed.

## CLASSY SOCCER CHRISTMAS DAY

Tomorrow at the lower campus, Punahou, at 2:30, an interesting match is promised the soccer fans, two picked teams from the league being the combatants.

The All-Scottish team, as one of them is designated, is a formidable aggregation of soccer experts who have already shown their worth individually and who tomorrow will be given an opportunity of showing what they can do as a combination. The opposition, selected from the rest of the league, is also a combination that should give a good account of itself. All members are players of experience, having been engaged in league work for the past two or three seasons, and, with both teams confident of victory, a stirring encounter must be the outcome. Greig of the Healanis captains the Scotsmen, while Watson Ballentyne of the Males is in charge of the opposition.

The following are the line-ups: All-Scottish: R. C. Walker, goal; L. Forrest and R. Kay, backs; J. Jamieson, R. Trotter, J. M. Macdonald, half-backs; J. Sinclair, J. Harris, J. B. Walker, J. S. B. Greig and G. D. Oakley, forwards. The Rest: W. Paty, goal; J. Kelly and M. Morse, backs; Hollinger, Ballentyne and Parker, half-backs; Billy Hoogs, G. Dwight, F. Coombs, A. Quintal and C. Littlejohn, forwards.

The Fleur de Lis barber shop at the corner of Fort Street and Chapel lane, is celebrating its first anniversary. The splendid little shop has made fast headway in the year. It is a well-appointed place. It may be enlarged, so the management states, during the coming year, with the growth of business.

## Personal Mention

HON. S. B. KINGSBURY, judge of the circuit court at Walluku, Maui, is a holiday visitor in Honolulu.

N. YAMAGUCHI of Tokio, Japan, arrived in Honolulu yesterday on the Shinyo Maru to take the position of sporting editor of the Hawaii Hochi, the local Japanese afternoon newspaper. Mr. Yamaguchi is considered as the second best baseball expert in Japan.

## LITTLE INT

—C. C. KENNEDY: The exposition buildings in San Francisco are coming on very well and furnishing employment to a great many workmen. I am afraid, though, that employment in industries generally will fall off considerably before long.

### BISHOP STREET TONIGHT.

Bishop street will be alive with good people tonight, provided the merchants have their way. They are, today, issuing an invitation to the public to make use of that thoroughfare as they see fit—provided, of course, they see fit to be reasonably orderly. Handbills of invitation will be distributed this afternoon and the street has been handsomely illuminated for the occasion. The more the merrier, say the merchants. Bandmaster Berger and his aggregation will be located in the center of Bishop park and play for the visitors to this neighborhood from 7 to 10.

Star-Bulletin gives you ALL the news.

## Farm Land For Sale

22 Acres of cleared agricultural land—close to street car line. Improvements: 2 small houses, well, pump, gasoline engine, pipe lines. Price \$400 per acre, as a whole.

9½ acres of cleared land, adjoining U. S. Reserve at Fort Ruger at Ocean View, 35 lots. Good roads; water in pipes, front of every lot. Price, \$700 per acre, as a whole.

Trent Trust Co.

"My Christmas Gift Problem is settled" with a CONKLIN SELF FILLER

Vieira Jewelry Company 113 Hotel St. Popular Jewelers.

## LOVE'S BAKERY

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## Real Estate for Sale

Building lots near town, on Miller street, \$1300 to \$3000, according to size.

Spreckels Tract lots opposite Oahu College, 100x100, for \$1600.

Acre lots at Fruitvale, Palolo Valley, \$600 per acre.

Kaimuki, Ocean View and Palolo Hill lots, \$400 and up.

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Cor. Fort and Merchant Sts. HONOLULU, T. H.

## For Sale

Choice Home on Prospect. Street  
High Elevation, Beautiful Marine View,  
Cool and Bracing

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